

**Draft statement by H.E. Atsushi KAIFU,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of Japan to the International Organizations in
Vienna, Head of Japanese Delegation at the Tenth Conference of the
States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption
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(1 Introduction)

Mr. President,

I would like to congratulate on your election as President of the tenth Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CoSP10). I would also like to extend our appreciation to the United States for hosting the Conference and for its leadership in bringing us forward. My appreciation also goes to the Executive Director Ghada Waly of UNODC and her team, the Secretariat for their diligent work.

Mr. President, and distinguished colleagues, it is my utmost pleasure to serve as the vice-president of the Conference.

(2 Combatting Corruption)

Mr. President,

Corruption poses serious problems and threats to the stability and security of societies. It undermines the institutions and values of democracy, as well as, our ethical values and justice. It also jeopardizes sustainable development and the rule of law. We need to emphasize that comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach is required to prevent and combat corruption effectively. We also reaffirm that our collective efforts against corruption contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In this regard, Japan celebrates the twentieth anniversary of United Nations Convention against Corruption since its adoption, as it has been, and still is the most comprehensive legally binding universal instrument on corruption.

(3 Leading efforts as G7 Presidency)

Mr. President,

At the G7 Hiroshima Summit in May under Japan's Presidency, we had candid discussions on various challenges the international community faces, with invited countries such India as the G20 Presidency and others, as well as relevant international organizations.

In those discussions, Japan emphasized the importance of our shared values such as "the rule of law" and "respect for human rights," that serves as the cornerstones of our societies there.

Based on these fundamental values, in the G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, we expressed that we will continue to step up our fight against corruption and pursue a stronger and more unified approach in rigorously enforcing international anti-corruption obligations and standards. Even in context for Ukraine to emerge better from the war, anti-Corruption efforts to a fair, transparent, and just allocation of resources are essential, with this, G7 Justice Ministers agreed to launch the Anti-corruption Task Force for Ukraine, which is included in the Tokyo Declaration.

(4 Sustained Domestic efforts)

Mr. President,

Japan reaffirms our strong commitment to integrating it into our domestic legal systems. Since the CoSP 9, Japan has up-graded our measures to better implement UNCAC by taking concrete legislations. Let me share some of our latest efforts.

1 First, with regard to the criminalization of "bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations stated in Article 16 of the UNCAC, penalties for Foreign Bribery have been drastically strengthened under the national legislation of "Unfair Competition Prevention Law". With this amendment, foreign bribery is now recognized as one of the most severe economic crimes in Japan. In this area, we also continue to stress the importance of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and of enlarging participation to the Convention.

2 Second, the protection of whistleblowers has been significantly enhanced in further clarifying and relaxing requirement of the procedures, as well as extending the scope.

3 Third, we built the Beneficial Ownership of Legal Persons List System as one of the measures to identify the Beneficial Owner after the corporation's establishment. From the same view, Japan also revised the Act on the Prevention of Transfer of Criminal Proceeds so that it requires further customer due diligence including identifying and verifying the Beneficial Owners of legal entity customers.

(5 Sustained International Cooperation)

Mr. President,

Japan have been a promoter of technical assistance and capacity building training to international community. We actively provide support and cooperation, including through our contribution to UNODC and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, or UNAFEI in Tokyo.

(6 Closing remarks)

Let me conclude my remarks with a hope that the Conference will achieve its purpose as a fruitful occasion for all participants to further strengthen our collective commitment to prevent and combat corruption.

Thank you.

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